



The Race Equality Centre in Leicester and Leicestershire

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The Race Equality Centre

The Race Equality Centre actively promotes, seeks, and implements a racially just, fair and equitable society, which will enhance the quality of life for all citizens of Leicester and Leicestershire.

January 2019 TREC Updates

• **BAME Older People Flourishing**

Leicester Ageing Together (LAT) is holding an event which is being organised in partnership with The Race Equality Centre (TREC) and the Unit for Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement (DICE) from the University of Leicester. The event is entitled 'Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Older People Flourishing'. It will feature activist and academic Amrit Wilson, author of 'Finding a Voice' an award-winning study of the lives of South Asian women. It will focus on harnessing the assets of the local community in overcoming loneliness and social isolation among older people. The event is on Wednesday 23rd January 2019 from 1- 4.30pm at Highfields Centre, Leicester. This event is open to members of the public and is free to attend. To book a place please click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y747mz7x> For more information on Learning from Leicester Ageing Together please click here: <https://www.leicesterageingtogether.org.uk/about-us/learning-from-lat/> Or for further enquiries please contact: Monica Hingorani, Learning Officer, monica@leicesterageingtogether.org.uk

• **Black History Season 2018**

Back in October 2018 TREC organised two events for Black History Season in conjunction with Leicester Social Forum. The first was a commemoration of the life and legacy of Walter Tull. Tull was one of Britain's first Black professional football players. The second was a discussion on "unconscious bias" and whether it a useful concept in the struggle against discrimination. For more information please click here: <https://tinyurl.com/yagct2sw>

• **When Will We Call It Genocide**

As part of 2018's Black History Month, the University of Leicester's Amnesty International Society held an event with a group of panellists including students, external academics. Speaking on behalf of TREC was ex barrister Dion Hanna. The panel and audience debated the global mistreatment of black people questioning when the world will recognise the historic and ongoing systematic murder of black people as genocide. The event was a success providing much thought provoking discussion. For more information please click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y9d5gwca> Video from the event can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/UOLAmnesty/videos/2345165405511726/> Photos from the event can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/UOLAmnesty/posts/3129137643838505>

Local News

- **Red Cross Refugee Services Leicester Relocation**

As of 15th January 2019, The Red Cross Refugee Services in Leicester has relocated to 3rd Floor, 27 East Street, Leicester LE1 6NB. For more information about the move or for information on the Red Cross in general please contact via Tel: 01162649999, Fax: 01162601573, or Mobile: 07860412828.

- **New Co-Chair Invites Members Of The Public To Join Their Patient Group To Shape Services Of The Future**

A local organisation who plan and develop health services for patients in the community has recently announced the appointment of Melton resident and former Chair of Leicester's Clockwise Credit Union, John Wood, as co-Chair to the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Alliance Patient and Public Partnership Group (PPPG). The LLR Alliance is a partnership of health organisations in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland designed to offer patients more choice about when and where they receive day-case and outpatient treatment and is helping to drive forward local plans to deliver more care in the community. Anyone is welcome to join the PPPG. Patient partners are volunteers who provide a patient's view on the design, planning, delivery and performance of NHS services. New Patient Partner volunteers are always welcome and further details can be found at <http://lralliance.nhs.uk/about/public-and-patient-partnership-group> and membership details can be found here <http://lralliance.nhs.uk/about/public-and-patient-partnership-group/pppg-membership-pack> To find out more about the LLR Alliance, please click here <http://lralliance.nhs.uk/about>.

- **The Colour Purple At The Curve**

The Curve Theatre Leicester with Birmingham Hippodrome is putting on a production of The Colour Purple. The play is told over the course of 40 years following Celie, as she journeys through joy, despair, anguish and hope in her own personal awakening to discover her unique voice in the world. It is a moving family chronicle set in racially divided southern America, celebrating life, love and the strength to stand up for who you are and what you believe in. Performances run from Friday 28 June to Saturday 13 July. For more information, and to buy tickets please click here: <https://www.curveonline.co.uk/whats-on/shows/the-color-purple/>

- **Let's Dance International Frontiers 2019**

Let's Dance International Frontiers is an annual dance festival taking place in Leicester, UK. Launching on international dance day, 29 April, the festival runs until 11 May 2019 with a programme of performances, workshops, films, exhibitions and an annual conference. The festival features a focus on Black dance and the events that make up the festival will take place at venues around Leicester. For more information and a programme of events please click here: https://issuu.com/ldif/docs/03386_serendipity_ldif19_brochure_w

National News

- **BBC Four announces new programmes that celebrate diversity**

BBC four has announced a season of new programmes that celebrate British diversity and explores the secret tribes and communities that have helped shape modern British History. The new programmes which will air on BBC Four across February include A Very British History, a new series unpacking the untold stories of communities across the UK including the Jewish community in Leeds, African-Caribbeans in Birmingham, Romany Gypsies around the Home Counties, and Ugandan Asians in Leicester. This season will also include Soon Gone: A Windrush Chronicle, new contemporary dance piece titled Windrush: Movement of the People by Phoenix Dance Theatre celebrating the arrival of HMT Empire Windrush to the UK in 1948 and; Don McCullin: Looking for England which follows the celebrated photographer on his journey to document the country. For more information please click here: <https://www.voice-online.co.uk/article/bbc-four-announces-new-programmes-celebrate-diversity>

- **Universities Must Listen More Closely To Their BAME Staff And Students**

The most up to date stats show stark evidence that there is a gap between how well black and minority ethnic students do at universities and the performance of their white peers. They show a gap of 28 percentage points between black and white students in terms of receiving firsts or 2:1s at university. Deborah Husbands, a senior lecturer at the University of Westminster, has written an article asking why, given that this disparity has been known for a while Universities have not done enough to adequately address the gap. In the article she speaks from her experience as a university lecturer calling for a comprehensive strategy for equality, diversity and inclusivity that is owned and driven by senior managers. For more information please click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y7sf8vbt>

- **£3.2bn UK Pay Gap For Black, Asian And Ethnic Minority Workers**

Research by the Resolution Foundation on the ethnicity pay gap finds that black and minority ethnic employees are losing out on £3.2bn a year in wages compared with white colleagues, with the gap rising to 17 per cent, or £3.90 an hour, for black male graduates. Ministers have been urged to press ahead with proposals to force large firms to report their ethnicity pay gap, after the research showed the extent of the salary disparity for Britain's 1.9 million black, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi and other minority workers. For more information please click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y9z77rja>

- **Annual Day Of Celebrations For The Windrush Generation**

A national Windrush Day backed by new government funding will take place on 22 June every year, encouraging communities across the country to celebrate the contribution of the Windrush Generation and their descendants, Communities Minister Lord Bourne announced today (18 June 2018). The event will be overseen by a body of British Caribbean representatives and a Windrush Day grant of up to £500,000 will be available each year to charities and communities seeking to hold commemorative and educational events. For more information on the funding and some of the events planned please click here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/annual-day-of-celebrations-for-the-windrush-generation>

- **Anti-racism campaigners hold vigil in Kent welcoming migrants to UK**

Anti-racism campaigners led chants welcoming refugees to the UK at a gathering in Ramsgate on Sunday, as divisions emerge in Kent over the so-called migrant crisis. Kent Anti-Racism Network (KARN) organised the vigil at the obelisk monument in the seaside town's harbour on Sunday. Overlooking a Border Force patrol boat, campaigners expressed their concern for the welfare of migrants attempting to cross the English Channel in small boats, brandishing banners and shouting: "Say it loud, say it clear, refugees are welcome here." For more information please click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y7kyblne>

- **Youtube Bans Britain First Ad That Appeared When Users Searched For Brexit Or British Political News**

YouTube has banned a Britain First ad that users were forced to see while searching for news on Brexit and British politics. People who were looking for videos on the site were forced to look at the ad, which lasted more for than five minutes and gave prominent coverage to the far-right group. As well as covering the group's members, ideas and featuring clear displays of its logo, the ad linked out to the group's YouTube channel. It showed leader Paul Golding confronting Muslims in Nuneaton. But the ad has now been removed by the site, after it was reported by The Guardian. The ad was in contravention of rules that ban hate speech and other similar content, YouTube said. For more information please click here: <https://tinyurl.com/yam94oaz>

- **Birmingham Repertory Theatre presents Blue Orange**

The Birmingham Repertory Theatre is putting on a production of the play Blue Orange. It is written by Joe Penhall, and is an Olivier Award-winning play presenting a darkly funny dissection of institutional racism and mental health in modern Britain. The cast features Thomas Coombes as Bruce, Richard Lintern as Robert and Ivan Oyik, who makes his professional stage debut as Christopher. It runs from 01 February to 16 February 2019. Tickets start at £10. For more information, to purchase tickets please click here: <https://www.birmingham-rep.co.uk/whats-on/blue-orange.html>

- **London state school secures 41 Oxbridge offers**

41 students at Brampton Manor, a state school in east London, have secured an offer to study at either Oxford or Cambridge this year. The school is based in Newham which is one of the poorest boroughs in London. However, its success rivals the admission rates of some of the top-performing private schools across the UK. Nearly all of those who received offers are from ethnic minority backgrounds, while two thirds will be the first in their family to attend university. For more information please click here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-46900154>